Sunday, January 20, 2002

## Reed Royalty Public Affairs, Inc.

Governmental Relations Community Relations Communications

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**FAX** 

TO: Renatta Hesse, Antitrust Division

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Ms. Renatta Hesse Trial Attorney Antitrust Division 601 D Street, NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20530 Via Fax # 202-616-9937

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The case of U.S. v. Microsoft is a waste of tax dollars. I encourage the courts to accept the settlement and bring this unfortunate chapter of our judicial history to a close.

I understand that the court is deliberating whether the settlement in U.S. v. Microsoft should be accepted. It is also my understanding that if the court rejects the settlement, the case will continue, forcing some states and the federal government to resume spending on the issue. I hope you will approve the settlement.

I write this letter as an individual, but I am president of a taxpayers' organization that tries to ensure that taxes and governmental programs are "fair, understandable, cost-effective, and good for business" (our mission statement). It is this activity that aroused my interest in U.S. v. Microsoft.

The amount of tax dollars going to special interest lawsuits such as the one against Microsoft has increased dramatically in recent years. Politicians now see these lawsuits as publicity generators (and sources of extorted money) rather than good public policy. The "demonization" of productive, tax-paying businesses is a deplorable tool used in the search for headlines.

I hope the court will send a message to the politicians and special interests by supporting this settlement.

By the way, I own no stock in Microsoft, and I use a Mac.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Reed L. Royalty